

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 ISO-00 SCCT-01 SAM-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01

SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 ACDA-05 IO-11 /083 W

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R 211530Z JAN 76

FM AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6592

INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

AMCONSUL CAPETOWN

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY HELSINKI

AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY LOURENCO MARQUES

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK

USMISSION USNATO

USMISSION USUN

C O N F I D E N T I A L STOCKHOLM 0338

FOR EMBASSY CAPETOWN

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, AO, SW

SUBJECT: MPLA "FOREIGN MINISTER" VISITS SWEDEN

REF: (A) HELSINKI 127, (B) HELSINKI 119, (C) 75 STOCKHOLM 5739

1. BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED. MPLA "FOREIGN MINISTER" JOSE
EDUARDO DOS SANTOS ARRIVED IN STOCKHOLM HEADING AN
ANGOLAN DELEGATION JANUARY 20. DOS SANTOS HAD EARLIER
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BEEN IN HELSINKI TO ATTEND MEETING OF COMMUNIST FRONT

WORLD PEACE COUNCIL. (REFTELS A AND B).

2. IN MEETING WITH SWEDISH PRESS AND TV, DOS SANTOS REPEATED CHARGES MADE IN HELSINKI RE PRESENCE OF SOUTH AFRICAN TROOPS IN ANGOLA, POINTING OUT THAT SOUTH AFRICAN PRISONERS HAD BEEN BROUGHT TO OAU CONFERENCE IN ADDIS ABABA. ASKED ABOUT UNITA LEADER JONAS SAVIMBIS' STATEMENT THAT HE WOULD AGREE TO AN ARMISTICE WITH MPLA, DOS SANTOS CLAIMED THIS ONLY ILLUSTRATED DIFFICULT SITUATION FACING UNITA, INCLUDING ITS LACK OF DIPLOMATIC SUPPORT, IN CONTRAST TO 23 AFRICAN COUNTRIES WHICH, HE SAID, NOW RECOGNIZE MPLA.

3. DOS SANTOS SAID HIS PURPOSE IN COMING TO SWEDEN IS TO (A) INFORM THE GOS ABOUT THE POLITICAL AND MILITARY SITUATION IN ANGOLA AND (B) "FIND OUT EXACTLY WHERE SWEDEN STANDS ON THE ANGOLAN QUESTION." END UNCLASSIFIED.

4. BEGIN CONFIDENTIAL. POLITICAL COUNSELOR CALLED MFA AFRICAN DESK OFFICER, HEINEBECK, TO CHECK OUT PRESS REPORTS THAT DOS SANTOS WOULD BE MEETING PRIME MINISTER PALME AS WELL AS FOREIGN MINISTER ANDERSSON WHILE IN STOCKHOLM. HEINEBECK SAID THAT IT IS MFA UNDERSTANDING THAT PALME WILL NOT RPT NOT RECEIVE DOS SANTOS, ALTHOUGH FOREIGN MINISTER ANDERSSON AND AID MINISTER GERTRUD SIGURDSEN WILL, AND THE LATTER WILL HOST A LUNCHEON FOR HIM AND HIS DELEGATION. OFFICIALS OF THE SOCIAL DEMOCRATIC PARTY, HEINEBECK SAID, WILL ENTERTAIN DOS SANTOS IN THE EVENING.

5. HEINEBECK SAID THE INITIATIVE FOR THE VISIT HAD COME FROM DOS SANTOS, WHO WISHED TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THE PROXIMITY OF HELSINKI TO VISIT STOCKHOLM. ASKED WHY, SINCE GOS DOES NOT RPT NOT RECOGNIZE MPLA, FOREIGN MINISTER ANDERSSON AND OTHER HIGH OFFICIALS ARE RECEIVING DOS SANTOS, HEINEBECK SAID THAT GOS IS "ALWAYS OPEN" TO VISITS BY FOREIGN "POLITICAL LEADERS." HEINEBECK REPLIED AFFIRMATIVELY WHEN ASKED IF THE GOS WOULD ALSO RECEIVE DOS SANTOS' OPPOSITE NUMBER IN UNITA OR THE FNLA.

6. HEINEBECK POINTED OUT THAT MPLA "HAS OUR SYMPATHY,"
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BUT HASTENED TO ADD THAT GOS HAS NOT RPT NOT MOVED CLOSER TO RECOGNIZING MPLA. HE SAID FOREIGN MINISTER ANDERSSON'S STATEMENT OF LAST NOVEMBER (REF C) THAT DIPLOMATIC RECOGNITION OF ANY ANGOLAN FACTION WOULD HAVE TO WAIT UNTIL THE POLITICAL SITUATION "STABILIZES," STILL STANDS AS GOS POLICY. HEINEBECK PROMISED TO PROVIDE BRIEFING ON TALKS WITH DOS SANTOS FOLLOWING COMPLETION OF VISIT.

7. COMMENT: WHILE WE DO NOT EXPECT ANY CHANGE FOR THE
MOMENT IN GOS ATTITUDE TOWARDS MPLA RECOGNITION, RECENT
MILITARY SUCCESSES OF MPLA AND FACT THAT 23 AFRICAN
NATIONS NOW RECOGNIZE MPLA HAVE UNDOUBTEDLY HAD IMPACT ON
GOS THINKING RE ANGOLAN SITUATION. HIGH LEVEL RECEPTION
BEING GIVEN DOS SANTOS AND HEINEBECK'S COMMENTS ABOUT GOS
"SYMPATHIES" FOR MPLA WOULD SEEM TO REFLECT CONTINUING
GOS "TILT" TOWARDS MPLA. IN THIS CONNECTION, SWEDISH PRESS
QUOTES PRIME MINISTER PALME, ON RETURN FROM HELSINGOR MEETING OF
SOCIALIST LEADERS, AS DEFENDING CUBAN MILITARY INTERVENTION
IN ANGOLA "AS NOT RPT NOT OUR CONCERN," AND ADDING
THAT "IT IS STUPID" TO CALL MPLA LEADERSHIP WITH
WHOM GOS HAS HAD "EXCELLENT CONTACTS" FOR 12 YEARS,
COMMUNISTS. GOS SOURCES REPORT THERE IS GROWING PRESSURE
FROM LEFT WING OF SOCIAL DEMOCRATIC PARTY FOR MORE "AFFIRMATIVE"
ACTION TOWARDS MPLA. UNLESS THERE IS CHANGE FOR BETTER IN
FORTUNES OF NON-COMMUNIST ANGOLAN MOVEMENTS, WE CAN EXPECT
CONTINUING EROSION OF GOS FORMAL POSTURE OF NON-RECOGNITION OF
MPLA AS ANGOLAN GOVERNMENT.
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